

## SPORTS



Women's Basketball	
Feb. 9, Spartanburg, S.C.	
Wofford	48
Appalachian	65
<b>Wofford (48)</b>	
Mister, 4-8 5-6 13, Ripberger, 1-4 0-0 3, Paul, 2-5 1-3 5, Harris, 3-10 0-0 7, Correll, 2-3 1-3 5	
<b>ASU (65)</b>	
Jank, 3-4 0-0 6, Edwards, 4-7 0-0 8, Conyers 2-6 2-2 6, Barriner, 8-11 3-5 21	
<b>3 point goals --</b> ASU, Barriner 2, Smith 3.	
Wofford, Ripberger 1, Harris 1, Strong 1, Bradshaw 1.	
<b>Assists --</b> ASU, Conyers 3, Barriner 1, Bryant 3, Conklin 1, Bennett 1, Wyatt 1.	
Wofford, Mister 1, Paul 1, Harris 4, Correll 1, Strong 2, Weurding 1.	
<b>Total Fouls --</b> ASU 16, Wofford 14	
<b>A --</b> 231	

## Wrestling

Feb. 7, Boone	
VMI	20 (2-0, 7-4 SoCon)
ASU	18 (2-3, 4-3 SoCon)
125 - G. Gibson (ASU) dec. J. Sanchez, 5-1	
133- M. Amrozowicz (VMI) pin fall T. Williams(ASU), 3:44	
141-D. Metzler (VMI) dec. S. Erwin, 4-3	
149-J. Jones (ASU) dec. S. Alvarenga, 9-4	
157-C. Hardy(VMI) maj dec. C. Elliot 16-6	
165-L. Roper (ASU) tech fall M. Burton, 2:58	
174-D. Buckman(ASU) maj dec. P. Newman, 11-3	
184-C. Murray(VMI) maj dec. A. Barnette, 12-0	
197-J. Cox(VMI) dec. J. Carroll, 3-2	
HWT-D. Hazell(ASU) dec. S. Buhman, 3-2	

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SINCE 1934.

**The Appalachian**

## Mance lends 28 years, 299 wins to success of ASU wrestling program

BY HUGH KELLENBERGER  
Staff Writer

The Appalachian State University wrestling team has been thumping opponents for 28 years now, thanks to coach Paul Mance.

Mance now stands at 299 wins during his head coaching tenure, with the opportunity to get to 300 this weekend.

The Mountaineers will head to James Madison University and have two opportunities to grab a win against James Madison and Rider University.

"I really don't pay much attention to winning or losing. When you've been coaching for 32 years, one win or loss doesn't mean much," Mance said.

Mance, 57, has been a member of the Mountaineer wrestling program for 34 of the last 38 years. He was a four-year letter winner as a student, then spent two years as a graduate assistant. He then left to return to his home state of New York and coached the wrestling program at Herkimer County Community College for four years.

"I really didn't know I could even be successful at this," Mance said. All totaled, he has a 337-184-8 career record.

Red Watkins was leaving the program after the 1975-76 season and was looking for a new coach. Having coached Mance, he gave Mance a call and asked him to apply.

"I had no clue what I wanted to do," Mance said. "I only came to

college because I wanted to play sports, and then realized it's something I could only do for a while."

Mance ended up at Appalachian through an unlikely connection to the university.

"My high school wrestling coach's father was John Welborn [the former manager of the cafeteria that is now Welborn Hall]. They got me to go to college. I didn't even do that well academically in high school," Mance said.

Mance was the first one in his family to go to college, much less earn a post-graduate degree.

"I figured I would work in my father's marina as a fishing guide," Mance said.

Since he was named coach, he has turned the program into one of the Southern Conference's best. He already is the winningest coach in Appalachian State and Southern Conference history, and boasts six Southern Conference Coach-of-the-Year awards. The most recent award is from last season.

"We've been lucky to have a successful team. I just try to keep a solid, competitive team," Mance said.

Mance has done that, with at least one conference individual champion in 26 of the past 27 seasons, with eight SoCon regular season titles and five tournament crowns.

The only goal left for the ASU program is a national championship.

"We've had two or three kids who

could have won national championships," Mance said. "Mark Fee was very capable."

Fee lost last year in the quarterfinals of the NCAA tournament.

"It's hard to win the championship being from a small school," Mance said. "You might not get the breaks you need."

Mance counts his legacy as developing not only good wrestlers, but also good people.

"I feel proud of how many doctors, lawyers, teachers and others we have had come through this program. You hear from hundreds of them each year, a lot of them feel like wrestling made them better," Mance said.

He doesn't single out any wrestlers as his favorites, because "the kids you have that year are the ones you spend time with, hundreds of them I have spent lots of time with."

"You can't even count the number of young people he has had a positive impact on over the years," ASU Director of Athletics Roachel J. Laney said.

Under Mance's watch, the program has developed from when he was the only coach to what it is now. Besides Mance, there are three assistants and two student-assistants all coaching and teaching.

The team has struggled this year with a batch of new freshmen, with a current record of 4-3 (2-3 in So-Con play).

"These freshmen are a great bunch of kids," Mance said. "Pres-



Matthew Brown | The Appalachian

Head coach Paul Mance looks to gain his 300th win this weekend as the Mountaineers compete against James Madison and Rider universities.

sure is the hardest thing in sports, and young kids don't always like to have the pressure on them. Some guys come through though."

He also operates one of the largest wrestling camps each summer, playing host to over 1,500 kids.

Mance has never thought about getting out of coaching or leaving ASU. His wife graduated from Appalachian, as well as both of his children.

"I've had offers, but this is the only place I have wanted to be,"

Mance said. There is not a specific plan in place for when to retire.

"I am 57 years old now. I figure I'll go until I am 62 or sometime in that area. When someone else can do a better job, I'll get out," Mance said. Mance would like to eventually see the program in the top 20 each year, with more All-Americans and national champions.

"He is an ambassador not only for the sport of wrestling, but also for Appalachian State," Laney said.

## Mountaineers battle back after losing streak, slam Wofford 65-48

BY BRAD NORMAN  
Senior Staff Writer

Appalachian State University, in the midst of a season-long losing streak on the road, took out its frustration on Wofford College with a resounding 65-48 hammering of the hapless Terriers.

For the first time all season, the game was never in doubt.

Using the same full-court press that helped them win against the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, the lady Mountaineers took a 26-17 halftime lead.

Appalachian increased its defensive pressure in the second half and slowly built a 20-point lead against the Terriers. The defense held Wofford to 35 percent shooting for the game and held guard Ricaye Harris to seven points on a 3-of-10 shooting performance.

Appalachian was led by freshman Crystal Barriner, who went for a game-high 21 points. Barriner was 8-for-11 from the field, including 2-for-3 in three-point range.

Another promising sign was the shooting of junior Lindsay Smith. Smith, who has struggled for consistency in her jump shot all season, came off the bench to chip in 12 points on 50 percent shooting.

Aisha Bryant struggled from the field for the second consecutive game, scoring four points while shooting 2-for-10 from the field.

In her last two games, Bryant has combined for nine points. For the season, she averages 15 points a game.

Although the season has been far from acceptable, Appalachian can take a lot of aspects from this game to build on.

Wofford's shooting percentage (35 percent) and total points (48) were both the lowest that Appalachian has allowed all season.

In addition, Appalachian had one of its best offensive games of

the season, shooting 46 percent from the field.

As a team, ASU also had fewer turnovers, more steals and more rebounds to give the team its most complete game of the season.

Appalachian will host East Tennessee State University Feb. 14 at 1 p.m.

The Bucs are currently tied for second in the conference and defeated ASU 65-64 Jan. 17.

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# SPORTS

## Tough Loss



ASU forward Linday Smith dribbles around a Western Carolina defender Wednesday night. Smith led the Mountaineers with 16 points in the 80-65 loss. The Catamounts used an 18-2 run in the second half to put the game away. Appalachian plays against East Tennessee State University Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Holmes Convocation Center, and at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Monday at 5:15 p.m.

## Mountaineers fall to Cougars 65-63, in danger of last seed in SoCon tourney

BY BRAD NORMAN  
Senior Staff Writer

Seven is not a lucky number for everyone.

Seven certainly is not lucky for the Appalachian State University men's basketball team, which lost its seventh straight game against College of Charleston Tuesday, 65-63.

Appalachian fell to 8-16 overall, 3-8 for the conference and are in danger of getting the last seed from their division in the upcoming Southern Conference Tournament.

Although the game swung back and forth early during the first half, Appalachian went on a 20-5 run during the final 9:00 to take a 32-20 halftime lead. Appalachian State shot 50 percent in the first half en route to their 12-point lead while C of C connected on only 28 percent of their shots. Junior guard Noah Brown led the scoring effort in the first half, chipping in 10 points.

Just three minutes into the sec-

ond half, the Cougars cut the Appalachian lead to two points after a 10-0 run.

Charleston cut the Mountaineer lead to one point seven different times and finally tied the game at 61 with 1:22 on a Thomas Mobley jumper.

On the next possession, Stanley Jackson made a lay-up on a fast break to give the Cougars their first lead since leading 15-14 in the first half.

Although Appalachian has been a poor free throw-shooting team down the stretch, Johnathan Mitchell hit two clutch free throws to tie the game with 38 seconds left.

On the Cougars final possession, Appalachian guard Corwin Davis fouled Dontaye Draper.

Draper made both foul shots and Mitchell's last-second lay-up was strong off the backboard.

A miscommunication led to the Cougar's winning foul shots.

Coach Fancher said they made a call to double-team the ball handler, but Davis interpreted the

double team signal as the signal the team uses to foul.

The game itself was a mirror of two teams going in different directions. The Cougars, who are first place in the South Division, are familiar with winning close games.

As for Appalachian, they were once again left with the familiar, bitter taste of a game that got away. In their seven-game losing streak, four of the games have been decided by four points or less.

Brown led the Mountaineers in points with 14 and added six rebounds. Mitchell and Derek Thomas both came off the bench to score 10.

Appalachian returns to Boone tomorrow and will host Western Carolina University.

The game could have a direct effect on the seedings for the Southern Conference tournament.

Although in last place, Appalachian is just one game behind Western and within striking distance of a third-place division finish.

	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.
C					
A	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
L	Track HOME 3:30 p.m.	Men's Basketball HOME vs. WCU 7:30 p.m.	Women's Basketball HOME vs. ETSU 2 p.m. Track @ Clemson	No games scheduled	Women's Basketball @ UTC 5:15 p.m.
E			Wrestling @ James Madison U noon vs. JMU & Rider U.		
N					
D					
A					
R					

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Spring Sports Preview

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